

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 YAOUND 03328 091536Z

44

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 CCO-00 /009 W

----- 042782

O 091400Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9562

S E C R E T YAOUNDE 3328

STADIS//////////

FOR AF/C ONLY

AF/C BLODGETT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, MASS, CM

SUBJECT: CAMEROON MILITARY EQUIPMENT LIST

REF: STATE 221367 AND PREVIOUS

1. MET WITH PRESIDENCY ASST SEC. GEN BOUBA BELLO AS PLANNED. HE SAID HE HAD RECEIVED LETTER FROM MINISTER OF STATE FOR ARMED FORCES RESPONDING QUESTIONS WHICH EBOUA HAD RAISED FOLLOWING OUR AUGUST 25 MEETING.

2. ON PERCEIVED THREATS, BELLO COVERED MUCH OF SAME GROUND AS EBOUA. HE SAID THREAT WAS NOT ONE OF IMMEDIATE DANGER. CAMEROON ATTEMPTING HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL ITS NEIGHBORS, BUT FINDS SINCE ANGOLAN SITUATION THAT EVERYONE IN AREA IS RECEIVING ADDITIONAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND PRUDENCE DICTATES THAT CAMEROON SHOULD BE IN POSITION DEFEND ITSELF IF THERE IS DIRECT CONFRONTATION.

3. SPECIFICALLY, HE MENTIONED LARGE AMOUNT SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT SENT CONGO (B) FOR STAGING TO ANGOLA. GURC DOES NOT KNOW HOW MUCH OF THIS REMAINS CONGO. FURTHERMORE, BELLO SAID HE HEARD ESTIMATES OF UP TO 10,000 CUBANS BEING STATIONED IN CONGO (B). RECENT BORDER INCIDENTS (SEE YAOUNDE 3087) MADE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 YAOUND 03328 091536Z

CAMEROON EXTREMELY NERVOUS AND ANXIOUS HAVE MEANS DEFEND

ITSELF AGAINST AGGRESSIVE NEIGHBORS.

4. BELLO ALSO MENTIONED BORDER PROBLEMS WITH GABON. MIXED COMMISSION MEETING INTERPRET TREATY DEFINING BORDER. HOWEVER, IN MEANTIME, GURC KNEW GABON HAD RECEIVED AND WAS SEEKING ADDITIONAL ARMS. HE SAID BOKASSA IN CAR WAS EX-MILITARY MAN AND GURC UNDERSTOOD HE ALSO RECEIVING ARMS. IT WELL KNOWN THAT CHAD HAD TURNED TOWARDS VOIEIT UNION FOR ARMS SUPPLY. FINALLY, HE SAID GURC APPREHENSIVE ABOUT NIGERIA WITH ITS 250,000 MAN ARMY. CURRENT NIGERIAN LEADERSHIP APPEARS SOMEWHAT ERRATIC AND CAMEROON HAS NO IDEA WHAT MAY HAPPEN INFUTURE, EITHER WITH RESPECT LEADERS OR POLICIES. IN SHORT, GURC FOUND ALL NEIGHBORS RECEIVING ADDITIONAL ARMS AND, WHILE GURC HOPED THEY WOULD NEVER HAVE TO USE THEIR WEAPONS, THEY FELT NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO DO LIKEWISE. (HE DID NOT MENTION E.G., BUT WE WERE INTERRUPTED)

5. UNFORTUNATELY, AT THIS POINT BELLO CALLED BY PRESIDENT AHIDJO, BUT HE PROMISED GET BACK TO ME THIS AFTERNOON WITH DETAILED JUSTIFICATION ON EQUIPMENT REQUESTED. HE AWARE OUR DEADLINE AND NECESSITY FURNISH PRECISE INFO.
MITHEOFER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976YAOUND03328
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760340-1251
From: YAOUNDE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760975/aaaacmoe.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 76 STATE 221367
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <04 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CAMEROON MILITARY EQUIPMENT LIST
TAGS: EAID, MASS, CM, US, (EBOUA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006